

## Waco Questions Submitted

Date July 24, 2013

### **PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATIONS:**

1. Work Schedule and Phasing Plan – What is the maximum number of calendar days acceptable to the VA for completion of the installation including the 30-workday production shakedown period?

#### VA Equipment Specialists' Response:

160 –days to complete the installation this includes the 30-workday production shakedown period.

### **TECHINCAL / PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATIONS & PURCHASE DISCRIPTIONS:**

#### **Item #1 Floor Scales:**

1. Specification requires weight scale platforms to be recessed in floor. Are the required floor pits installed by the VA building contractor? Are required conduits installed within the pit and stubbed up above finished floor for weight cell cabling for scale control?

#### VA Equipment Specialists' Response:

The required floor scale pits, all conduits and cabling will be provided by the equipment provider.

#### **Item #3b & #3c CWES System:**

1. Continuous Wash Extract Systems (CWES) (pg. 93): Is an acceptable alternate hatch/doors on alternating modules excluding the first and last module?

#### VA Equipment Specialists' Response:

Yes. Hatch doors are acceptable on alternating modules excluding the first and last module.

#### **Item #3d Drying & Conditioning Tumblers:**

1. From what source is the lint collector fire suppression water to be connected: the building sprinkler system, or the nearest cold water line?

#### VA Equipment Specialists' Response:

The lint collector should be connected to the nearest dedicated cold water pipe and system should be connected to the building fire alarm system to alert authorities of a fire in the lint collector. A rotary (Red) LED rotary light should also be installed within the laundry to alert Management and employees that a fire exists in the lint collector. All of the connections will be done equipment vendor.

2. Does the building sprinkler system design include servicing the (11) new dryers?

#### VA Equipment Specialists' Response:

No, modifications will have to be done Simplex-Grinnll at the cost of the equipment provider.

**Item #3e Lint Collection System:**

1. Specifications describe interconnecting lint collector dryer fire suppression control(s) to alarms/lights located throughout laundry. VA may consider connecting signal controls to building fire alarm panel instead.

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

The intent of the specification is to connect the signal controls to the building fire alarm panel but also have alarm and connect a rotary (Red) LED rotary installed within the laundry to alert Management and employees that a fire exists in the lint collector.

2. From what source is the lint collector fire suppression water to be connected: the building sprinkler system, or the nearest cold water line? Does the building sprinkler system design include servicing the lint collector systems?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

Answered above under Item #3d Drying & Conditioning Tumblers

3. Is it the VA's intend to have the lint collectors located outdoors external to the building on the roof or at ground level? If roof-mounted, is the roof framing designed to carry the additional loading?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

They will be placed indoor at ground level according to the CAD drawings.

**Item #8 110/120-lb. Gas Dryers**

1. Specification indicates touch screen controls. No controls are available at this time. Will the VA accept microprocessor controls?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

Yes. VA will accept micro-processor controls if touch screen controls are not available.

**Item #10 Garment Tunnel Finisher:**

1. Garment Tunnel Finisher (p.111): Please clarify whether production is at 200 per hour or 600 per hour?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

600 garments per hour is required. Garment Tunnel Finisher shall also have automatic lint screen cleaning.



## Waco Questions Submitted

Subject: Request For Information (RFI) VAMC, Waco, TX  
Solicitation – VA797H-12-0015

Date: August 13, 2013

The following questions are submitted for your immediate consideration regarding the above referenced solicitation.

### **PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATIONS:**

#### 1. Additional utilities (p.23):

a. Specification (2) indicates steam utility available however, only one of the two steam valves designated for the new laundry equipment could be physically located within the mechanical room. Please verify the room location and the size of the second HPS valve shown on the VA building drawings that is designated for laundry equipment.

#### VA Equipment Specialists' Response:

**Steam and condensate valves are located in Mechanical room 116. See Sheet MU – 6.01 for valve sizes.**

b. Specification (2) indicates electric utility available. Building design allowed for two (2) 600A circuit breakers for the laundry equipment. May the existing 225A circuit breaker marked "spare" be utilized for new laundry equipment?

#### VA Equipment Specialists' Response:

**No.**

2. Additional lighting (p.24): Specification (4. t) requires new lighting fixtures in the new finishing area over work areas and equipment. Overhead area lighting already exists in the new building. Please clarify.

#### VA Equipment Specialists' Response:

**If additional lighting is required for the work areas of the new equipment, it is the successful offeror's responsibility to provide any additional lighting within their design. All work areas must have sufficient lightning for employees and work stations.**

3. Guarantee (pp.30, 46 & 70): Specifications refer to both one year and two-year guarantee periods. Clarify if guarantee period is one or two years.

#### VA Equipment Specialists' Response:

**A 2 year guarantee/warranty is required.**

4. Layout Drawing (pp.5, 33, 65): Specifications refer to submitting 1/8" and 1/4" scaled layouts. Clarify that the layout drawing scale is to be 1/8" = 1'-0".

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Layout drawing scale is to be 1/8" = 1' 0"**

5. Job Specific Drawings (p.70): Specifications require successful bidder to submit equipment system installation drawings [architectural, mechanical & electrical] within 45-days of award. Is it a requirement that all installation drawings to be approved by the VA be sealed by an architect/engineer licensed in the State of Texas?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Yes, see also general installation requirements.**

6. 30. (2).j (p.4) Work Schedule and Phasing Plan – What is the maximum number of calendar days acceptable to the VA for completion of the installation including the 30-workday production shakedown period?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**160 –days to complete the installation this includes the 30-workday production shakedown period.**

**TECHINICAL / PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATIONS & PURCHASE DESCRIPTIONS:**

**Item #3c Single-Stage Tunnel Washer Extractor Press with Conveyors (p.94)**

1. Specification (7) requires automatic hydraulic [fluid] cooling system. Specify type: water or air?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**The offeror(s) shall submit within their proposal either water or air as it pertains to their equipment being offered. VA will evaluate the proposal of either water or air cooling.**

**Item #3b. Continuous Tunnel Wash System**

1. 3b.6. (d) (Pg. 93) – Specification states water recycling is required. Does the specification refer to "water reuse"?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**For the Continuous Tunnel Wash System water reuse is required within the Tunnel washer.**

**Item #3c. Single- Stage Tunnel Washer Extractor Press with Conveyors**

1. 3c. (5) (Pg. 94) - Is 16 extract formulas compliant?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Yes**



2. 3c. (13) (Pg. 94) - Does compliance include "waterless membrane press"?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Yes**

3. 3c. (Pg. 94) - Specification states to furnish and install ten (10) gas heated drying and conditioning tumblers for the Continuous wash extract systems (five for each tunnel washing system). Is "crossover" shuttle to access all dryers on either CBW compliant?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Yes, a "crossover" shuttle to access all dryers on either CBW is acceptable. However, VA will evaluate the best design from all proposals.**

4. In addition to the ten (10) CWES dryers, furnish and install one (1) 400 pound dryer for the non-production washer extractors.

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Yes. The 400 LB dryer shall be for the larger washers.**

5. Pg. 83 Item# 3d. - The bid portion calls out the following for pricing – leaving out pricing for (1) 400 pound dryer.

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Please include the pricing for the 400 LB dryer.**

**Item #3f Staph Barrier Wall (p.97)**

1. Specification requires wall system to have one electronic sliding glass door (min. 40"). Is this door system required to meet ADA accessibility guidelines?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Yes. ADA accessibility guidelines must be followed.**

2. Specification requires successful bidder to balance the new existing HVAC to accomplish the air pressure levels in both the soil and clean areas.

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response**

**That is correct.**

a. Is existing HVAC system serving the soil area (designed and installed by others) capable of adequately achieving the required ten (10) air changes per hour?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Yes.**

b. Should the successful bidder for Item #3 not be awarded other equipment systems (i.e. Items #6, -8,-10 that all require supply air, and are equipped with exhaust fans that will impact the HVAC systems), what is the successful contractor's responsibility for air balancing when the balancing is being affected by equipment furnished and installed by another bidder?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Hypothetical, question not answered. General guidance: provide Testing, Adjusting and Balancing (TAB) services required for each item indicated.**

3. What is fire rating construction design for the new staph barrier wall?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Wall assembly not fire rated.**

4. Is exit signage for new doors required?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**No.**

**Item #3g Washer Extractor 200/300 Pound (pp.97-98)**

1. Specification (15) appears to be a typo referencing replacement of damaged electrical boxes. Please clarify specification for providing power-disconnect boxes for washer extractors.

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**This was a typo error. Please disregard. No power disconnect box is required for the large washer extractors.**

**Item #4 Cart Washer/Dryer System (pp.100-102)**

1. Specification (3) Clarify that the requirement to ensure that the cart wash unit is properly sealed to staph barrier wall (in this case existing masonry wall opening) does NOT imply that the successful bidder awarded this item is required to balance the room air to ensure negative/positive pressures.

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**The requirement to ensure that the cart wash unit is properly sealed to staph barrier wall (in this case existing masonry wall opening) does NOT imply that the successful bidder awarded this item is required to balance the room air to ensure negative/positive pressures. It IS the successful bidder's responsibility to properly seal the cart washer in the staph barrier wall.**



2. Specification (4) requires a wastewater from the unit to discharge into the sewer located on the soil side. Is it the responsibility of the successful bidder to install a new drain sump with minimum 4-inch diameter drain pipe from the existing cart wash pit and extend to the nearest under-slab sanitary sewer branch main, if no cart wash drain was installed during construction of the building?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Yes. It is the responsibility of the successful bidder to install a new drain sump with minimum 4-inch diameter drain pipe from the existing cart wash pit and extend to the nearest under-slab sanitary sewer branch main, if no cart wash drain was installed during construction of the building.**

**Item #5 Ward Delivery Exchange Carts (p.102)**

1. What is the caster arrangement: two (2) swivel on one end, and two (2) fixed on opposite end?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Yes all carts will have (2) swivel and (2) fixed on the opposite end.**

2. Are brakes required?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**No Brakes will be required on the carts.**

**Item #6a Flatwork Ironing Systems (p103)**

1. Para (D) references three (3) each, "sheet pickers with conveyor." Please clarify if these machines are to be included, and if yes, provide purchase description.

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Yes, three (3) sheet pickers are required. Purchase descriptions are as follows:**

**Ordering Data Flatwork Separator Machines with Feed Conveyors:**

**Furnish and install three (3) each – Flatwork Separator Machines with feed conveyors. Flatwork Separator Machine shall be capable of meeting ironer production requirements. Flatwork Separator Machines shall remove individual pieces from baskets of washed and extracted flatwork, and present the pieces directly to feeding conveyor to equipment operators.**

- 1. The unit will operate with flatwork straight from the washing cycle without any preparation. This includes extracted, partially conditioned.**
- 2. Flatwork Separator Machine shall be capable of producing 1080 sheets per hour.**
- 3. The separator shall have a PC-based color touch screen controls & information systems" that incorporate automatic/manual machine operation, self-testing, fault display and built-in diagnostics.**

4. Flatwork Separator Machine shall be installed and leveled and have a leveling device installed on the machine.
  5. Workloads can arrive in laundry carts or from conveyors and slings.
  6. Unit will operate in a fully automatic mode. The unit will pick as long as there is flatwork to be separated. It will stop when the supply is substantially exhausted or there is no room on the discharge side. Audible/visible alarm when feed source must be changed.
  7. Electronic circuit boards include LEDs for simple troubleshooting of electronic circuits.
  8. Furnish and install one (1) new 480 volt power disconnect box for the flatwork separator system. Install a red warning indicator and a lock-on device on the handle of the branch circuit breaker for the power supply circuit for dryer to within six (6) feet of the floor. Electrical Requirements - 480 volts, 3 phase, 60 hertz.
  9. Safety micro switches shall be installed on all doors of the separator so that when a door is opened, the machine shuts down. Doors will be labeled accordingly.
  10. For allowing visual observation of the mechanical systems, install a minimum of 3/8 inches in thickness scratch and shatter-proof, clear (for the equipment life expectancy), Lucite side panels on both the right and left sides of the separator machine in lieu of metal side panels.
  11. Panels shall be protected with a guard around the center to prevent carts or other devices from damaging the panels. Panels shall be equipped with fasteners/locks to secure them to the system.
  12. All electrical and operational switches/buttons shall be labeled. All labeling shall be on laminated plastic nameplates. Nameplates shall be laminated phenolic with a colored surface and white core.
  13. An hour meter shall be installed on the separator machine to show the actual run time of the spreader feeder machine for maintenance.
  14. Install rated air ball valves with pressure relief for lock-out tag-out requirements.
  15. An illuminating (when activated) emergency stop button (colored RED) shall be installed on the separator that when activated shall render the separator inoperable. All emergency stop buttons shall have yellow backgrounds with legends. The separator machine shall also be equipped with a normal stop button colored Red.
  16. Ethernet connections shall be installed on all the flatwork separators that will allow for trouble shooting mechanical/operational problems from factory technicians.
2. 6c. (18) (Pg. 105) – Will VA accept a pneumatically controlled bypass conveyor?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Yes, pneumatically controlled bypass conveyor is acceptable.**



## **Item #6c. Flatwork Ironing Systems**

1. 6c. (24) (Pg. 106) – What is the role of the pacing lights on the ironer when the feeder has them?

### **VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**This is a typo error. Please disregard. Pacing/Production lights are only required on the spreader feeder machines.**

2. 6c. (24) (Pg. 107) – What is the role of the pacing lights on the folder when the feeder has them?

**This is a typo error. Please disregard. Pacing/Production lights are only required on the spreader feeder machines.**

3. 6c. (19) (Pg. 107) – Please define role of “yellow” lights?

### **VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Green light is for meeting production – Yellow light is for just under production rate and Red is not meeting production. Example – Green meeting 18 sheets per minute. Yellow, only 15 sheets per minute and Red, under 15 sheets per minute.**

4. 6c. (17) (Pg. 108) – Please define role of “yellow” lights?

### **VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Not applicable**

5. 6c. (9) (Pg. 104) – Will the vacuum system be included in the production testing of the feeder?

### **VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**No. The vacuum system will not be used for production testing**

## **Item #10 Garment Tunnel Finisher (pp111-112)**

1. Specification (12) requires a storage rail. Clarify that this rail refers to an industry-standard drop-off type slick rail to be used for staging hangered garments, and not a powered screw conveyor system for delivering garments to the uniform room area.

### **VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Once the garment has passed through the Garment Tunnel it will then be placed on a storage rail. This rail should be able to store the garments without the operator having to manually push or move the garments.**

## **Item #13a Water Systems (pp.113-117)**

1. Waste Water Recycling System: Clarify VA is responsible for providing the internet connectivity required for the specified web server module to be furnished with equipment panel. What is the Laundry Building Rm. # to where the successful bidder will be required to extend the control cabling from water system panel?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Yes. VA shall provide internet connectivity for the system.**

2. Because the laundry is a new structure, state what will be the quality characteristics of the water supplied to the laundry building by the VA for use with the new water system(s). Include information pertaining to the hardness, iron & manganese levels, pH level, TDS levels, etc.

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Characteristics of City of Waco Domestic water supply: (1) pH, min. 7.2 max. 7.6  
(2) Iron, min. .020 max. .049 (3) Manganese, min. .001 max. .005 Also, soft water will be  
furnished to the new Laundry as is presently furnished to existing Laundry.**

**Item 15 System Blow-Down Devices (pp.118-119)**

1. Are the quantity (15) compressed air reels to be furnished *in addition to* the individual air reels being required as part of the equipment item specifications?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Yes.**

**Item #13b Air Compressors and Air Refrigerated Dryer System (pp.113-117)**

1. State the type of three (3) air dryers required: 'cycling' or 'non-cycling' type?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Cycling air dryers are required**

2. Are air compressor systems to be designed for operation outside the building?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Yes.**

**Item #18 Chemical Drum Washer (p.123)**

1. Specification (6) indicates washer to handle "solvents". State *all* the types of solvents that VA will be removing from drums utilizing this washer.

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**Bleach, Alkali, Sour, Softener, and Detergent**



2. Specification (7) requires stainless steel construction. Are stainless steel pumps required?

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**The successful bidder shall offer a chemical drum washer that meets the specifications with what the manufacturer recommends and the VA will evaluate.**

3. Specification (15) requires electric heaters, but also references "(Hot Water)". Clarify type of heating required, if any.

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**The successful bidder shall offer a chemical drum washer that meets the specifications with what the manufacturer recommends and the VA will evaluate.**

**Item #19 Wrapper & Tying Linen System (124-126)**

1. Provide list of the textiles items that are to be plastic film wrapped & heat sealed.
2. Provide list of the textiles items that are to be ty-wrapped.
3. Provide list of the textile items that are to be both tied and heat seal wrapped, if any.
4. For each of the above, include maximum number in each textile item stack.

**VA Equipment Specialists' Response:**

**The answer for question 1-3 is, Blankets, towels, wash clothes, gowns, pajamas and scrubs.**

**Answer for question 4, the stack will be in bundles of 10 each.**

## Waco Questions Submitted

### **1. ITEM 1 – Floor Scales**

Floor scales are specified to be recessed within the floor.

Q – Are drains for the new scale pits required to be extended and connected to the existing under floor plumbing? NO

### **2. ITEM - 3g & 3h 200/500 Washer Extractors (non-production)**

VA building drawing sheets PL-4.01 & 6.03 indicates drain trenches (6"FD-B) were to be installed for the washer extractors. Alternatively, it was observed that drain pipes are stubbed up flush to finish floor level which are inadequate.

Q Is it the responsibility of the successful offer to install industry standard drain trench(s) with covers to properly collect waste water discharged by washer extractors? Answer ; If vendor's system requires a trench drain in lieu of floor drain which is provided then vendor should include in proposal the cost to provide such trench drains.

### **3. ITEM 7 - 80/100 Washer Extractors (non-production)**

VA building drawing sheets PL-4.01 & 6.03 indicates that a drain trench (6"FD-B) was to be installed for the washer extractors. Alternatively, it was observed that only two drain pipes for the required (3) machines are stubbed out above the floor. These are inadequate to handle waste water from the (3) washer extractors.

Q - Is it the responsibility of the successful offer to install industry standard drain trench(s) with covers to properly collect waste water discharged by washer extractors?

Answer: See item 2 above.

### **4. ITEM - 13a – Laundry Ancillary Support System**

Section Miscellaneous Items (p.116) specifies a separate commercial grade 100-gal. gas water heater shall be furnished and installed to service administrative area, restrooms, etc. VA building drawing PL-7.02 indicates presence of two domestic steam to water heat exchangers presumably for heating domestic hot water.

Q Is the 100-gal hot water heater specified required? If yes, identify CW and HW tie in points.

NO

### **5. ITEM - 13a – Laundry Ancillary Support System**

Section Remote Status Panel (p.116) specifies panel location to be within Laundry Managers Office [RM. 213].

Q Will VA accept the remote status panel being located within the clean/soil production area as an alternative to being located up on the mezzanine level within the manager's office?

NO



## **Waco Questions Submitted**

### **TECHINICAL / PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATIONS & PURCHASE DESCRIPTIONS:**

#### **Items #3b & #3d – Continuous Batch Washer System and Gas Heated Drying & Conditioning Tumblers**

1. Item 3b (pg. 93) states a minimum of 37,800lbs based upon 60% rough dry, 35% flatwork and 5% uniforms and patient clothing which conflicts with production requirements listed on item #3d (page 95) stating 25,550 lbs based upon 60% rough dry, 35% flatwork and 5% uniform and patient clothing.

Please clarify actual pounds of laundry to be processed and dried.

Equipment Specialist's Answers: Actual poundage will be a minimum 37,800 Daily

#### **Items#3d – Gas Heated Drying & Conditioning Tumblers**

1. Item 3d (pgs. 95 & 96) does not state size of ten (10) dryers specified for the CWES dryers. Will single cake CWES dryers be accepted as opposed to dual cake CWES dryers?

Equipment Specialist's Answers: Offeror shall meet production requirements of the system.